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INDEXES OF OHIO BUSINESS

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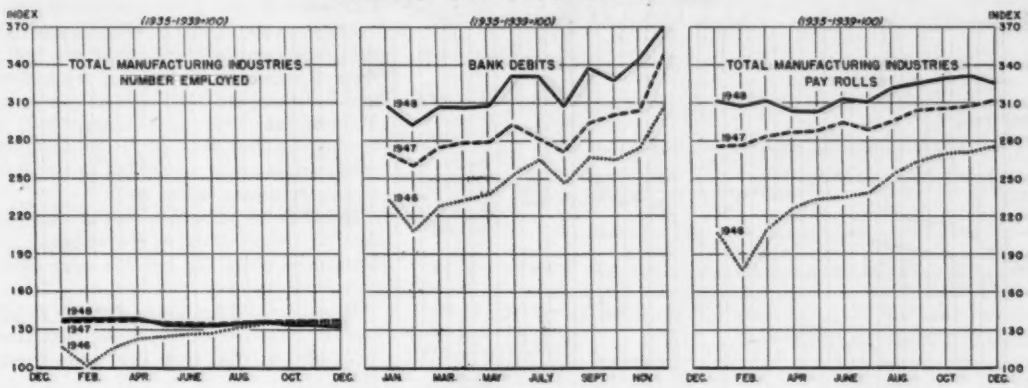

The Trend of Business

IN THE UNITED STATES

Business Activity for the 4 weeks ending January 15 dropped 3 per cent from the previous 4 weeks and from the corresponding period of 1947, and for the year 1948 business activity was 3 per cent above 1947, according to the New York *Times* Business Activity index.

Freight Car Loadings for the same 4-week period dropped 14 per cent from the previous 4 weeks, 9 per cent from the corresponding period for 1947, and for the year 1948 were 4 per cent below 1947.

Bank Debits outside New York City were up 8 per cent in December from November, 6 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 were 11 per cent above the same period last year. Personal income was up fractionally in December from November, 6 per cent from December, 1947, and 9 per cent for the year 1948 as compared with 1947. Salaries and wages income dropped 1 per cent in December from November, but was 8 per cent above December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 9 per cent above 1947. Agricultural income dropped 16 per cent in December from November and was 2 per cent below December, 1947.

Industrial Production, as measured by the Federal Reserve Board index, dropped 3 per cent in December from November, but was substantially unchanged from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 3 per cent above 1947.

Electric Power Production was up 6 per cent in December from November, 9 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 11 per cent above 1947.

Bituminous Coal Production was up 1 per cent in December from November, but was 12 per cent below December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 6 per cent below 1947.

Steel Production dropped 3 per cent in December from November, was up 5 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 4 per cent above 1947. The steel industry operated at 97 per cent capacity in December, a drop of 3 per cent from November.

Pig Iron Production was up 4 per cent in December from

(Continued on Page 2)

IN OHIO

Bank Debits in 16 Ohio cities were up 8 per cent in December from November, 5 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 were 12 per cent above 1947.

Agricultural Income dropped 17 per cent in December from November, and was 11 per cent below December, 1947, but for the year 1948 was 3 per cent above 1947. In December, as compared with November, the drop in income amounted to 3 per cent from meat animals, 5 per cent from dairy products, 55 per cent from grain, and 10 per cent from poultry and eggs.

Electric Power Production was down fractionally in December from November, 10 per cent above December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 10 per cent above 1947.

Bituminous Coal Production dropped 16 per cent in December from November, 21 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 5 per cent below 1947.

Construction Activity, as measured by the value of contracts awarded, was up 71 per cent in December from November, 31 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 17 per cent above 1947. Residential construction was down 2 per cent in December from November, and non-residential was up substantially from November and all types of construction were well above December, 1947. For the year 1948, residential and non-residential construction was up 7 per cent and 42 per cent, respectively, from 1947 while public works and utilities construction were down 4 per cent.

Retail Sales of independent dealers were up 23 per cent in December from November, 4 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 were 8 per cent above 1947.

Department Store Sales were up 42 per cent in December from November, 4 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 were 7 per cent above 1947.

Dyers and Cleaners Sales dropped 2 per cent in December from November, but were 5 per cent above December, 1947, and for the year 1948 were 2 per cent above 1947.

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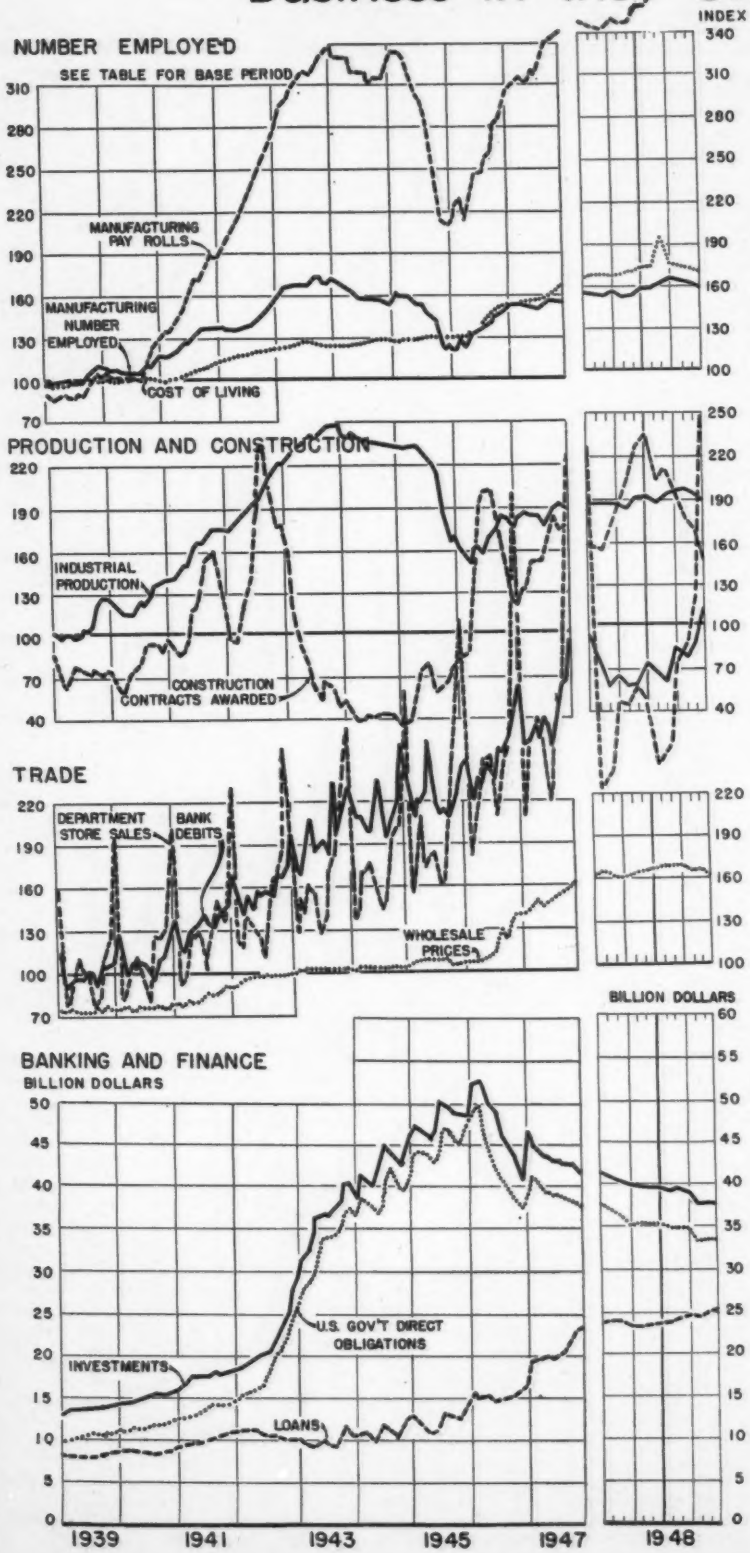
Business in the United States



IN THE UNITED STATES

(Continued from Page 1)

November, 8 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 3 per cent above 1947.

Construction Activity, as measured by the value of contracts awarded, was up 14 per cent in December from November, 11 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 22 per cent above 1947. For the year 1948, as compared with 1947, residential construction was up 14 per cent, non-residential construction 35 per cent, and public works and utilities construction 14 per cent.

Retail Sales of independent dealers were up 28 per cent in December from November, 2 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 were 6 per cent above 1947.

Department Store Sales were up 39 per cent in December from November, 2 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 were 6 per cent above 1947.

Wholesale Commodity Prices dropped 1 per cent in December from November, and were 1 per cent below 1947, but for the year 1948 were 9 per cent above 1947.

Retail Food Prices dropped 1 per cent in December from November, 1 per cent from December, 1947, but for the year 1948 were 8 per cent above 1947.

Department Store Prices dropped fractionally in December from November, but were 3 per cent above 1947 and for the year 1948 were 4 per cent above 1947.

FOOTNOTES FOR BULLETIN TABLES

[p]Preliminary; [x]Less than 0.5%; [y]More than 1,000% increase; †Change in number of failures; [a]Figures in parentheses show number of firms reporting this month; [b]Data not available; [c]Only percentage change available; [d]Adjusted for seasonal changes; [e]Bureau of Business Research estimate; [f]Adjusted for number of working days; [h]Includes additions, alterations and repairs along with residential and nonresidential; [w]Weighted.

Primary Sources:

Computed from original data collected by the Bureau of Business Research from: [1]Local Power and Light Co's.; [2]County Clerk of Courts; [3]Ohio Cleaners and Dyers.

Computed by the Bureau of Business Research from data collected in cooperation with: [4]Bureau of the Census, U. S. Dept. of Commerce.

Computed by the Bureau of Business Research from special tabulations supplied by: [5]Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Dept. of Labor; [6]Federal Power Commission; [7]Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau; and from data of: [8]Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; [9]F. W. Dodge Corporation.

Other Data Sources: [10]New York *Times;* [11]Association of American Railroads; [12]Dun & Bradstreet, Inc.; [13]American Iron & Steel Institute; [14]*Steel Magazine;* [15]Federal Reserve Board; [16]U. S. Dept. of Agriculture; [17]*Commercial & Financial Chronicle;* [18]U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; [19]Wards Reports; [20]Federal Power Commission; [21]Bituminous Coal Division, U. S. Dept. of Interior; [22]U. S. Steel Corporation; [23]F. W. Dodge Corporation; [24]*Chain Store Age;* [25]U. S. Dept. of Commerce; [26]Fairchild Publications; [27]Standard and Poor's Corp.; [28]Dept. of Rural Economics, O. S. U.; [29]National Industrial Conference Board; [30]R. L. Polk & Co.; [31]Ohio Bureau of Unemployment Compensation.

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← U. S. Reference Data

ITEM — Unit or Index Base Period	Dec. 1948	Nov. 1948	Change from Last Month: Dec. 1948 from Nov. 1948	Change from Last Year: Dec. 1948 from Dec. 1947	Change from Last Year: 12 mos. 1948 from 1947
General Business					
Totals, or Average Indexes for 4 Weeks Ended on Indicated Dates			%	%	%
Bus. Activity[10] 1/15/49 *Comp. Norm.*	150	155	— 3	— 3	+ 3
Fght. Car Loadings[11] 1/15/49 *Thous.*	2,649	3,065	— 14	— 9	— 4
Com. Failures[12] 1/15/49 ....*Number*	499	445	+ 12	+105	+ 51
Calendar Months					
• Bank Dbts. (Excl. N.Y.C.)[3,f] *1935-39*	352	327	+ 8	+ 6	+ 11
Seasonally Adjusted, at Ann. Rates:					
Tot. Pers. Income Pay.[25,d] *Bil. Dol.*	221	220	+ x	+ 6	+ 9
Salaries and Wages Inc.[25,d] "	137	138	— 1	+ 8	+ 9
Non-Agricultural Inc.[25,d]... "	197	196	+ x	+ 7	+ 8
Agr. Inc. (Cash f. Mktgs.)[16] *1935-39*	418	497	— 16	— 2	b
Life Ins. Sales[7]..... "	225	201	+ 12	— 11	— 2
Steel Ind. Oper. Rate[13]...% Capacity	97	101	— 3	+ 2	+ 1
Securities Issued[17]—New...*Mil. Dol.*	753	593	+ 27	— 28	+ 18
Securities Issued[17]—Refunding " "	78	73	+ 7	— 33	— 45
Employment and Pay Rolls[18]					
• No. Employed—Mfg.....*1939*	159	162	— 1	— 2	+ 2
No. Empl'd—Trade—Retail.. .. "	192	119	+ 61	+ 47	+ 6
No. Empl'd—Trade—Whl'sale "	118	118	— x	+ 1	+ 3
• Pay Rolls—Manufact..... "	378	378	— x	+ 3	+ 10
Production					
• Industrial Prod.[13].....*1935-39*	190	195	— 3	0	+ 3
Elec. Power Prod.[20]..*Mil. of K.W.H.*	25,688	24,169	+ 6	+ 9	+ 11
Bitum. Coal Prod.[21]....*Thous. Tons*	49,045	48,485	+ 1	— 12	— 6
Steel Prod.[13] *Av. Weekly Tons Thous.*	1,754	1,813	— 3	+ 5	+ 4
Pig Iron Prod.[14].....*Thous. Tons*	5,595	5,399	+ 4	+ 8	+ 3
Mach. Tool Shipments[22]....*Mil. Dol.*	b	b	b	b	b
Construction (Value of Contracts Awarded—37 Eastern States)					
• Total (Index)[15] 3 Mo. Mov. Av. *1923-25*	148	169	— 12	— 7	+ 22
Total[23] .....*Thous. of Dol.*	694,023	611,216	+ 14	+ 11	+ 22
Residential[23] ..... " "	256,746	264,033	— 3	+ 13	+ 14
Nonresidential[23] ..... " "	266,399	240,310	+ 11	+ 9	+ 35
Public Works & Util.[23] " "	170,878	106,873	+ 60	+ 11	+ 14
Distribution					
Retail Sales[25] ..... %	c	c	+ 28	+ 2	+ 6
• Dept. Store Sales[15]..... ...*1935-39*	495	357	+ 39	+ 2	+ 6
Prices					
• Wholesale Commod. Prices[15]....*1926*	162	164	— 1	— 1	+ 9
• Cost of Living[15] *1935-39*	171	172	— x	+ 3	+ 8
Retail Food Prices[15].....*1935-39*	205	208	— 1	— 1	+ 8
Dept. Store Prices[26].....*1935-39*	142	142	— x	+ 3	+ 4

Banking and Finance

ITEM — Unit	Jan. 19 1949	Jan. 21 1948	Jan. 22 1947	Change from Last Month Amt.	Change from Last Year Per Ct.
Federal Reserve Banks[15]				$	%
U.S. Gov. Securities ....*Mil. Dol.*	22,117	21,540	23,430	— 876	+ 3
Member Bank Borrowings " "	242	168	238	— 25	+ 44
Member Banks—101 Cities[15]					
• Total Loans ..... " "	24,949	23,394	19,264	+ 340	+ 7
Bus. & Agr. Loans and Open Market Paper " "	15,414	14,761	11,542	— 181	+ 4
Brok. & "Other Secur." Loans ..... " "	1,639	1,470	2,250	— 108	+ 11
Real Estate Loans.... " "	4,081	3,508	2,550	+ 15	+ 16
Other Loans ..... " "	3,917	3,473	2,792	— 13	+ 13
• Total Investments ..... " "	37,930	42,136	45,166	+ 349	— 10
• U.S. Gov. Obligations .. " "	33,749	37,886	41,215	+ 309	— 11
Demand Deposits ..... " "	47,670	48,970	46,787	— 620	— 3
Time Deposits ..... " "	15,027	14,578	14,062	+ 180	+ 3
Money[18]					
Money in Circulation.... " "	27,717	28,211	28,369	— 652	— 2
Monetary Gold Stock.... " "	24,264	22,829	20,692	+ 34	+ 6
Security Markets[27]					
Stock Prices—365 Ind. *Index '35-39*	128	124	127	— x	+ 4
" " — 20 Rails " "	108	103	114	+ 1	+ 4
" " — 31 Util. " "	94	95	110	— x	— x
Bond Yld—Corp. A1+ (high gr.) %	2.694	2.804	2.531	— 0.100	— 4

* Indicates Series Charted (page 2). For Sources and Footnotes, see Page 2

Reference Data—Ohio

ITEM	Unit or Index Base Period	Dec. 1948	Nov. 1948	Change from Last Month: Dec. 1948 from Nov. 1948	Change from Last Year: Dec. 1948 from Dec. 1947	Change from Last Year: 12 mos. 1948 from 1947
General Business						
				%	%	%
• Bank Debits[8,f] (16 cities)	1935-39	370	344	+ 8	+ 5	+ 12
Commercial Failures[12]	Number	18	21	— 14	+ 50	+ 40
" Liabilities[12]	Thous. Dol.	311	712	— 56	— 47	— 31
Life Ins. Sales[7]	1935-39	226	203	+ 12	— 7	— 3
Agr. Income[20]—total	1924-28	263	317	— 17	— 11	+ 3
Meat Animals	" "	346	357	— 3	— 12	— 2
Dairy Products	" "	238	251	— 5	— 12	+ 13
Grains	" "	176	393	— 55	— 21	— 2
Poultry and Eggs	" "	269	298	— 10	— 1	+ 7
• Electric Power Produc.[6,f]	1935-39	277	277	+ x	+ 10	+ 10
Bit. Coal Prod.[22] 4 wks.	Thous Tons	2,389	2,844	— 16	— 21	— 5
Construction (Value of Contracts Awarded)[9,f]						
• Total (Index)	1935-39	335	196	+ 71	+ 31	+ 17
Residential	" "	238	243	— 2	+ 30	+ 7
Nonresidential	"	362	218	+ 65	+ 19	+ 42
Public Works & Utilities	"	427	109	+291	+ 48	— 4
Distribution						
Retail Sales—Independent Stores[4] (2117)[a]	(See p. 3)	c	c	+ 23	+ 4	+ 8
• Dept. Store Sales[4] ( )[a]	1953-39	534	377	+ 42	+ 4	+ 7
Dyers' & Cleaners' Sales[3] ( )[a]	1939	236	241	— 2	+ 5	+ 2
Passgr. Car Reg. New[2] (42 cos)	No.	18,657	16,192	+ 15	+ 17	b
Truck Reg. New[2] (42 cos.)	"	2,825	2,602	+ 9	+ 17	b
Used Car Reg.[2] (34 cos.)	"	30,903	35,874	— 14	+ 13	b
Liv. Costs (6 cit.)[20]	Jan. '39	b	165	b	b	b
Placements, Unemployment and Unemployment Compensation[21]						
Placements by O.E.S.	Number	19,400	23,963	— 19	— 12	+ 3
Reg. for Work with O.E.S.	"	79,894	72,629	+ 10	+ 18	— 27
Total Benefit Payments	Thous. Dol.	1,756	1,392	+ 26	+ 22	+ 5
Av. Rcvg. Benefits—Wkly.	Number	21,809	17,162	+ 27	+ 27	+ 3
Wkly. Benefits Per Recipient	Dol.	18.59	18.42	+ 1	+ 5	+ 3
Unemployment Comp. Fund.	Mil. Dol.	554	556	— x	+ 6	b

Employment, Pay Rolls and Earnings[5]

ITEM	Unit or Index Base Period	Dec. 1948	Nov. 1948	Dec. 1948 from Nov. 1948	Dec. 1948 from Dec. 1947	12 mos. 1948 from 1947
Number Employed:				%	%	%
• Total[w] (4102)[a]	1935-39	143	143	+ x	— 3	+ x
• Manufacturing[w] (1838)[a]	"	132	134	— 2	— 5	— 2
• Trade & Pub. Util.[w] (1578)[a]	"	137	132	+ 5	+ x	+ 4
Construction (686)[a]	"	148	162	— 9	— 6	+ 4
Pay Rolls—Mfg.[w] (1838)[a]	"	325	331	— 2	+ 3	+ 7
Man-Hours—Mfg.[w] (1838)[a]	"	150	153	— 2	— 6	— 2
Wage Earner Mfg.[w] (1838)[a]						
Av. Weekly Earnings	Dol.	61.42	61.39	+ x	+ 9	+ 9
Av. Hours Worked	Number	40.1	40.1	0	— 1	— x
Av. Hourly Earnings	Dol.	1.53	1.53	0	+ 10	+ 9

Banking (4th Federal Reserve District)[13]

ITEM	Unit	Jan. 19 1949	Jan. 21 1948	Jan. 22 1947	Change from Last Month Amt.	Change from Last Year Per Ct.
Cleveland Federal Reserve Bank					$	%
U.S. Gov. Securities	Thous. Dol.	2,049,045	2,065,080	2,102,751	—155,332	— 1
Member Bank Borrowings	" "	19,120	14,152	21,784	— 5,109	+ 35
Member Banks—4th District						
• Total Loans	Mil. Dol.	1,493	1,466	1,258	+ 20	+ 2
Bus. & Agr. Loans and Open Market Paper	" "	922	892	665	+ 11	+ 3
Brok. & "Other Secur." Loans	" "	75	104	146	— 1	— 28
Real Estate Loans	" "	276	233	222	— 1	+ 18
Other Loans	" "	227	214	205	+ 5	+ 6
• Total Investments	" "	2,844	2,874	3,362	— 15	— 1
• U.S. Gov. Obligations	" "	2,503	2,550	3,067	— 13	— 2
Demand Deposits	" "	3,093	3,088	3,198	— 38	+ x
Time Deposits	" "	1,374	1,315	1,384	+ 19	+ 4

• Indicates Series Charted (page 3). For Sources and Footnotes, see Page 2.

Business in Ohio

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing[5]

City	December, 1948		December, 1947	
	Weekly	Hourly	Weekly	Hourly
Akron	$60.41	$1.70	$58.24	$1.57
Canton	59.36	1.55	55.53	1.46
Cincinnati	55.59	1.35	53.61	1.26
Cleveland	63.75	1.59	60.71	1.47
Columbus	56.09	1.38	52.95	1.28
Dayton	66.63	1.66	61.56	1.50
Toledo	67.54	1.70	62.66	1.57
Youngstown	63.28	1.60	57.53	1.47

NEW AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATIONS[2]

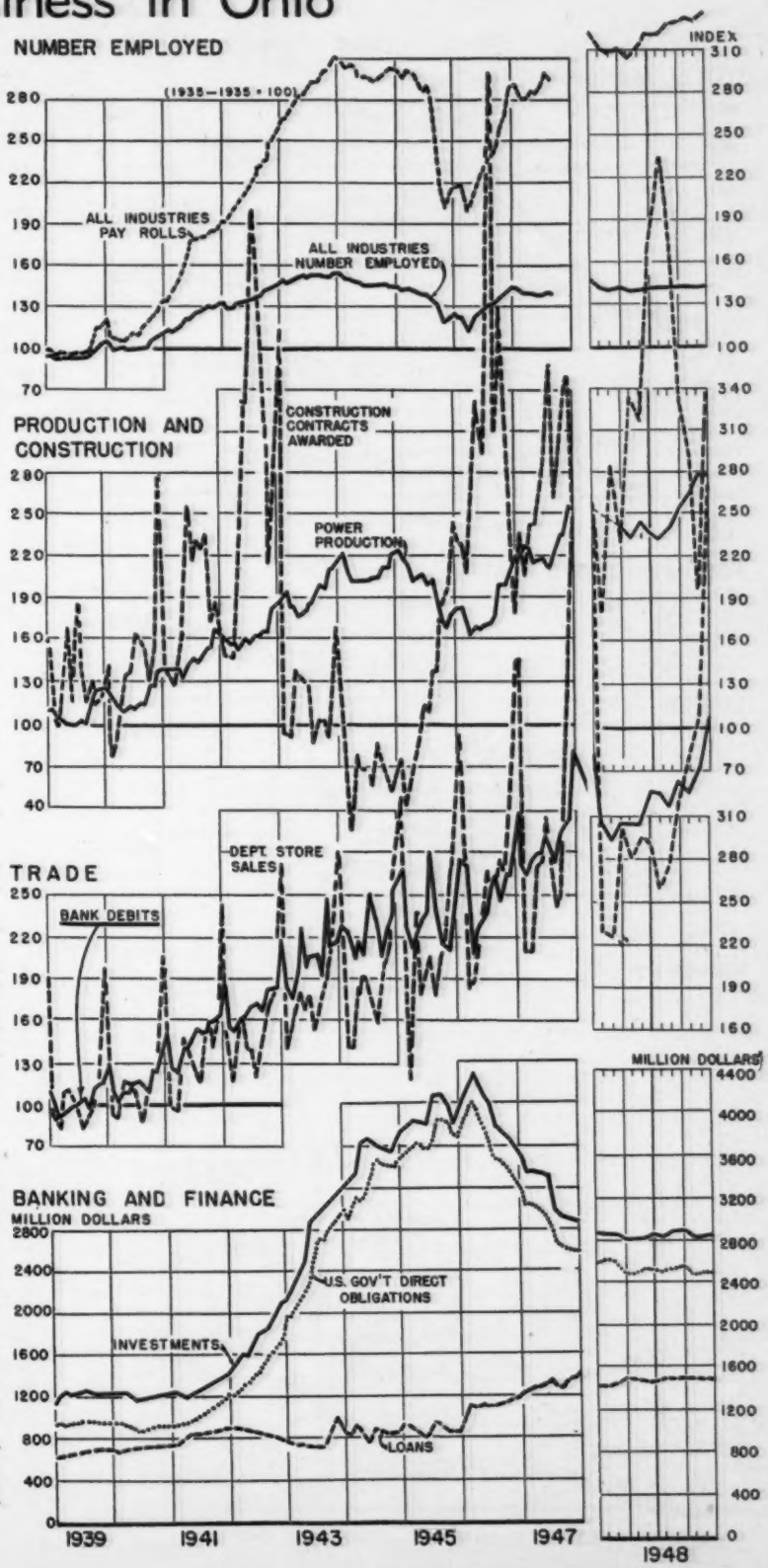
Make of Car	6 MAJOR OHIO COUNTIES[(a)]				
	Dec. 1948	Nov. 1948	Change: Dec. 1948 from Nov. 1948	Change: Dec. 1948 from Dec. 1947	Percentage of Total 12 mos. 1948
	No.	No.	%	%	%
Chevrolet	2182	2764	— 21	— 21	22
Ford	2090	2215	— 6	+ 13	13
Plymouth	1326	1573	— 16	+ 5	10
Buick	1048	290	+261	— 5	8
Dodge	964	795	+ 21	+ 26	6
Pontiac	924	744	+ 24	+ 5	7
Mercury	444	584	— 24	— 8	4
Chrysler	410	395	+ 4	+ 17	3
Hudson	387	418	— 7	+135	3
De Soto	379	375	+ 1	+ 27	3
Studebaker	358	351	+ 2	+ 8	3
Nash	298	362	— 18	— 17	3
Packard	248	216	+ 13	+ 41	2
Oldsmobile	238	399	— 40	— 66	5
Cadillac	215	81	+165	— 2	2
Kaiser	142	210	— 32	— 39	3
Lincoln	121	121	0	+ 75	1
Willys	88	131	— 33	— 39	1
Frazer	85	135	— 37	— 57	1
Crosley	59	43	+ 37	— 13	1
Others	35	40	— 13	+ x	0
Total	12036	12242	— 2	— 3	100

(a) Does not include Mahoning County.

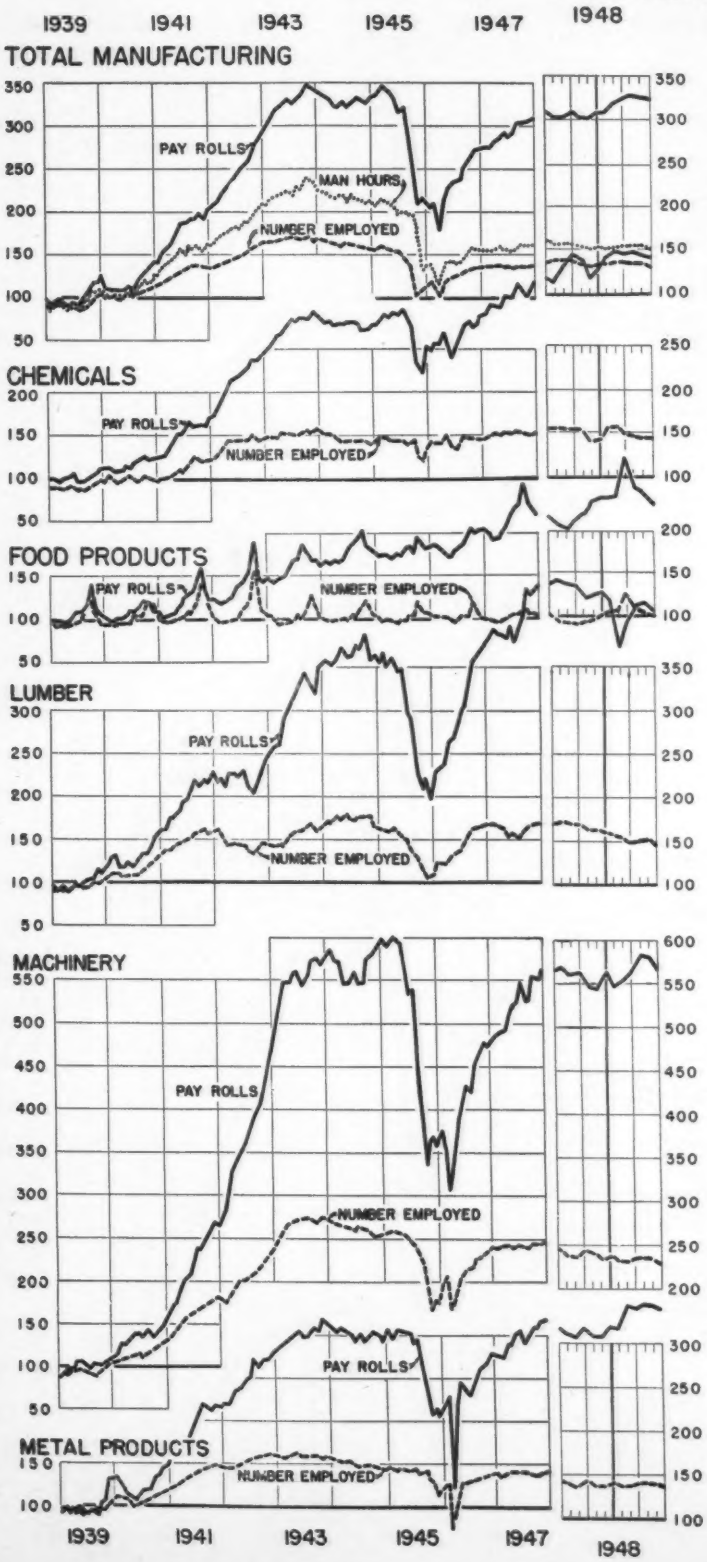
RETAIL SALES — INDEPENDENT STORES IN OHIO[4]

Kind of Business	Stores	Sales Dec. 1948	Change in Sales from: Last Mo. Dec. 1948 from Nov. 1948	Last Year: Dec. 1948 from Dec. 1947	Last Year: 12 mos. 1948 from 12 mos. 1947
	Number	$000	%	%	%
FOOD	320	5,211	+ 12	+ 9	+ 9
Groceries (no meats)	24	210	+ 4	+ 17	+ 19
Groceries (with meats)	118	1,650	+ 16	+ 6	+ 6
APPAREL	207	11,501	+ 42	+ 2	+ 4
Men's Clothing	69	1,584	+ 66	+ 3	+ x
Family Clothing	26	3,473	+ 44	+ 3	+ 4
Women's Clothing	43	4,587	+ 34	+ 1	+ 6
Shoe Stores	46	932	+ 46	+ 4	+ 3
AUTOMOTIVE	242	18,359	+ 4	+ x	+ 23
Motor Vehicles	215	17,898	+ 7	+ 3	+ 18
FURNITURE	166	4,689	+ 33	— 10	+ 8
Furniture	115	3,443	+ 30	— 10	+ 4
Household Appl.& Radios	30	870	+ 61	— 12	+ 7
LUMBER & BUILDING	174	5,188	— 16	+ 4	+ 17
Lumber & Bldg. Material	144	4,901	— 18	+ x	+ 15
Heating and Plumbing	3	27	— 18	+ 50	+ 9
EATING AND DRINKING	291	2,086	+ 2	+ 5	— x
OTHERS					
General Stores with Food	40	447	+ 31	+ 2	+ 3
Department Stores	43	55,750	+ 42	+ 4	+ 7
Drug Stores	163	1,709	+ 36	— 17	— 1
Florists	11	153	+ 62	+ 4	— 7
Filling Stations	30	405	+ 4	+ 21	+ 12
Hardware	112	2,387	+ 28	+ 2	+ 2
Jewelry	65	2,368	+170	— 4	— 1
All lines:					
Weighted (Based on 1939 Census sales)			+ 23	+ 4	+ 8
Adjusted for number of working days			+ 18	+ 4	+ 8

For Sources and Footnotes, see Page 2.



Number Employed, Pay Rolls, and



Manufacturing Employment dropped 2 per cent in December from November, 5 per cent from December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 2 per cent below 1947. Eleven of the major manufacturing industry groups reported employment decreases in December from November, and all but 2 groups reported decreases from December, 1947. For the year 1948, 8 groups reported employment decreases and 3 reported employment increases.

Manufacturing Pay Rolls dropped 2 per cent in December from November, but were 3 per cent above December 1947, and for the year 1948 were 7 per cent above 1947. Eight of the 10 manufacturing groups reported pay roll decreases in December from November, but only 5 of the groups reported decreases from December, 1947. For the year 1948, as compared with 1947, all but 2 of the manufacturing groups reported pay roll increases.

Man-Hours Worked in manufacturing industries dropped 2 per cent in December from November, 6 per cent from

INDUSTRIAL GROUP	Number Employed[5]					Index 1935–39
	Index 1935–39=100		Change			
	Dec. 1948	Nov. 1948	Dec. 1948 from Nov. 1948	Dec. 1948 from Dec. 1947	12 months 1948 from 1947	Dec. 1948
			%	%	%	
TOTAL (4102)[w]	143	143	+ x	— 3	+	337
All Manufacturing (1838)[w]	132	134	— 2	— 5	—	325
Chemicals (123)	146	148	— 1	— 3	—	354
Food Products (160)	99	103	— 4	— 3	—	226
Bakery (42)	99	102	— 3	— 1	—	241
Miscellaneous (118)	95	99	— 5	— 4	+	212
Lumber Products (94)	145	154	— 6	— 14	—	412
Furniture (43)	139	141	— 1	— 9	—	453
Miscellaneous (51)	111	126	— 12	— 22	—	220
Machinery (352)	228	233	— 2	— 7	—	565
Electrical Mach., Apparatus and Supplies (94)	271	278	— 3	— 12	—	641
Machine Tools (30)	149	149	— x	— 3	—	306
Material Handling and Power Machinery (12)	212	216	— 2	+ 18	+	602
Spec. Mach. & Appl. (216)	137	140	— 2	— 5	+	357
Metal Products (439)	138	140	— 2	— 2	—	341
Foundry Products and Drop Forgings (21)	150	149	+ 1	+ 1	—	383
Pipes, Pumps, Valves and Plumbers Supplies (9)	102	102	— 1	— 5	—	259
Screw Machine Products and Hardware (35)	149	149	0	+ 1	+	358
Sheet Metal Work (65)	143	153	— 7	— 7	+	399
Steel Works and Rolling Mills (59)	129	128	+ x	+ 2	+	321
Stoves and Furnaces (23)	91	123	— 26	— 34	—	226
Miscellaenous (227)	170	171	— 1	— 3	—	383
Paper and Printing (223)	133	132	+ 1	+ x	+	287
Paper, inc. Stationery (19)	125	126	— 1	+ 2	+	317
Print. & Publish. (126)	142	138	+ 3	+ 2	+	290
Miscellaneous (78)	128	129	— 1	— 3	—	307
Rubber Products (39)	134	136	— 1	— 10	—	282
Tires and Tubes (11)	130	131	— 1	— 10	—	250
Miscellaneous (28)	158	163	— 3	— 11	—	360
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products (132)	129	131	— 1	+ 1	+	283
Brick and Tile (37)	144	145	— 2	+ 3	+	354
Glass (20)	118	121	— 2	— x	—	300
Vitreous & Semi-Vitreous China & Pottery (22)	140	139	+ 1	+ 2	—	235
Miscellaneous (53)	90	92	— 2	— x	—	169
Textiles (110)	86	86	— x	— 4	+	219
Men's Clothing (37)	91	94	— 4	— 2	+	231
Miscellaneous (73)	75	74	+ 2	— 6	+	216
Vehicles (62)	133	137	— 3	— 9	—	377
Autos and Parts (31)	114	120	— 4	— 11	+	343
Cars, Electric and Street Railway (4)	211	196	+ 8	— 2	+	301
Miscellaneous (27)	330	341	— 3	— 4	—	948
Misc. Manufacturing (104)	112	113	— 1	— 7	—	246
Tot. Trade & Pub. Util. (1578)[w]	137	131	+ 5	+ x	+	246
Service (354)	105	106	— 1	+ 3	+	146
Trade (Ret. & Whlsl.) (1091)	145	135	+ 8	— 4	+	255
Transp. & Pub. Utils. (133)	145	145	— x	+ 5	+	236
Construction (686)	148	162	— 9	— 6	+	306
Mines and Quarries (105)	e	e	— 1	— 5	—	e

Indexes of Number employed and pay rolls are based on the employment of 557,828 persons in 3,062 establishments. Figures in parentheses
In most cases fewer establishments report man-hours.
For sources and footnotes, see page 2.

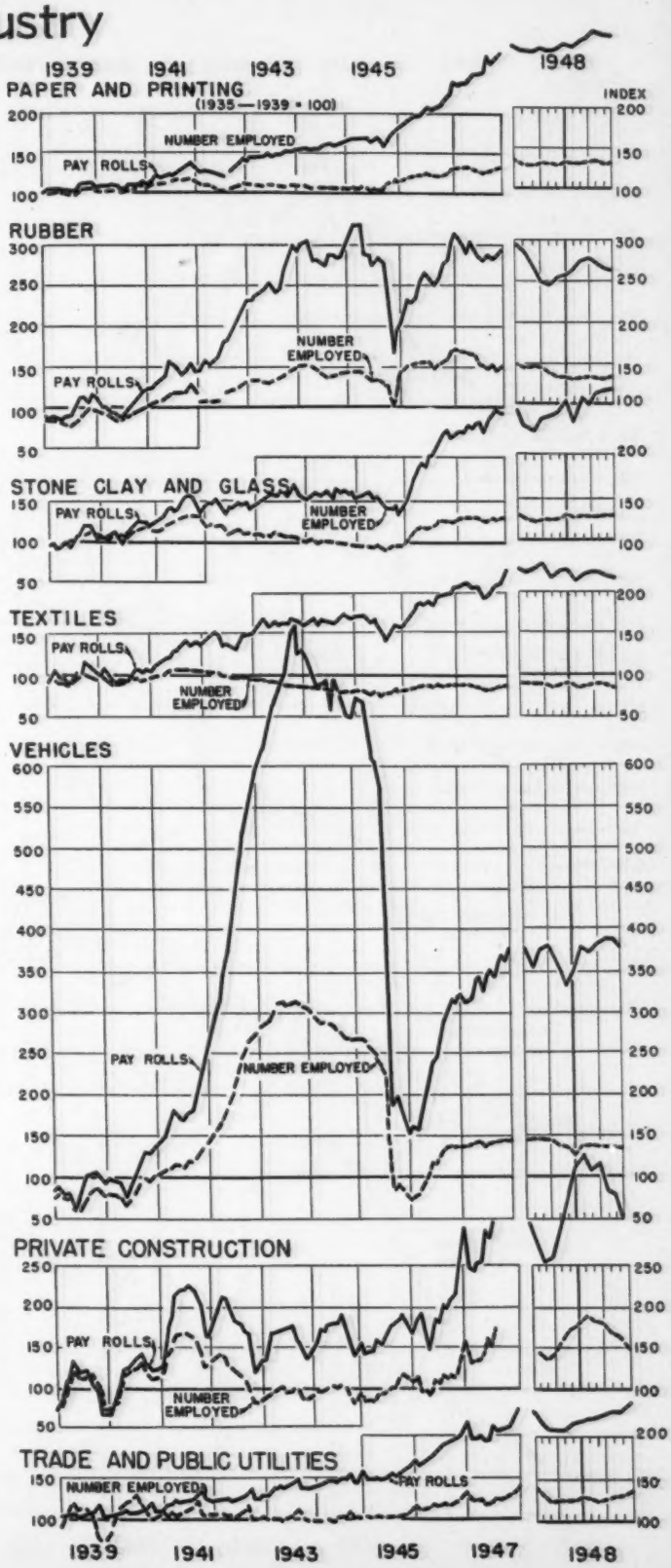
s, nd Man-Hours in Ohio Industry

December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 2 per cent below 1947. All but 3 of the major manufacturing groups reported a decline in man-hours in December from November and all but 1 of the groups reported a decline from December, 1947. For the year 1948 as compared with 1947 all the major manufacturing groups but 2 reported a drop in man-hours worked.

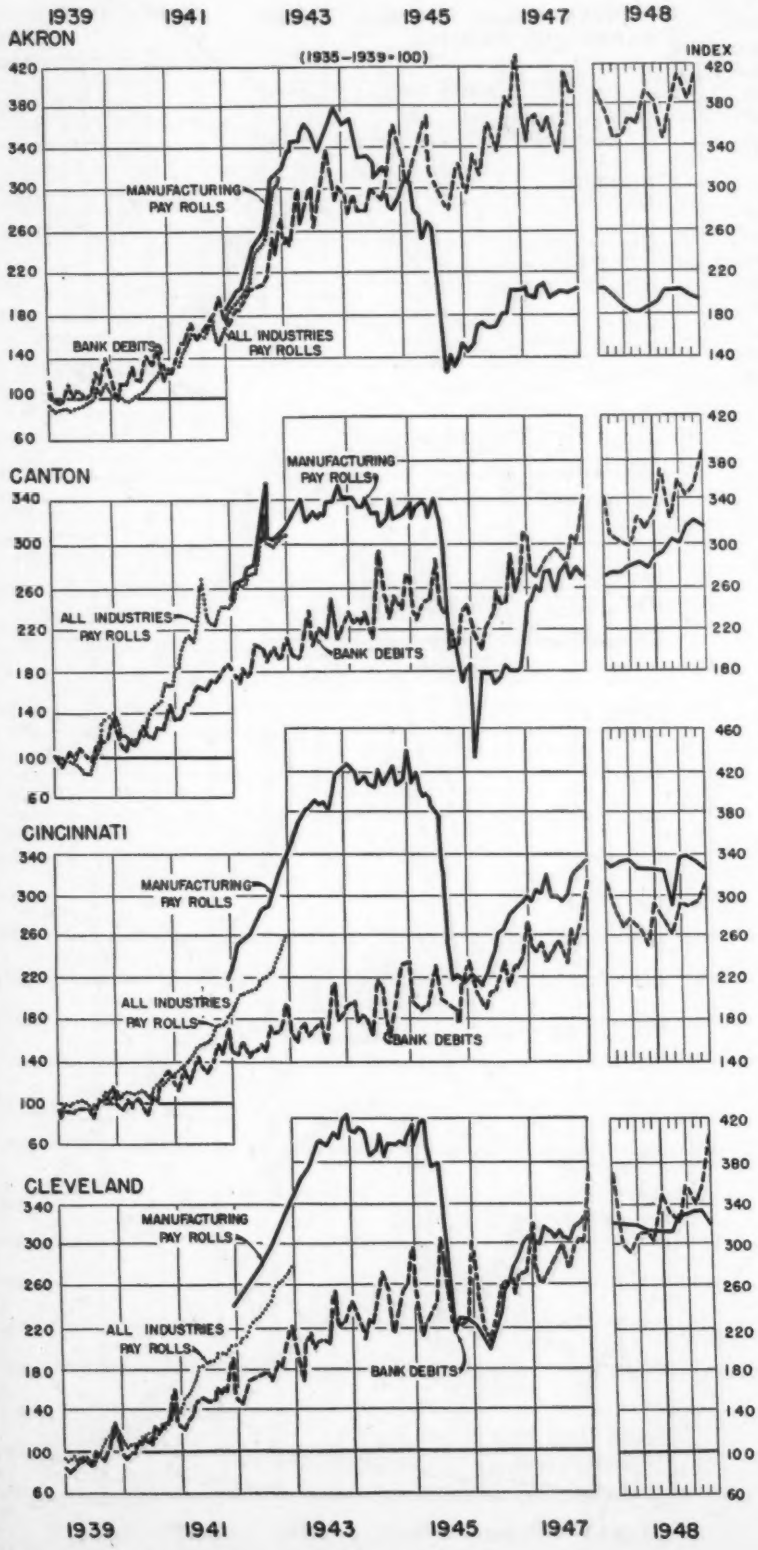
Trade and Public Utilities Employment was up 5 per cent in December from November, was fractionally above December, 1947, and for the year 1948 was 4 per cent above 1947. Pay rolls were up 8 per cent in December from November, 9 per cent from December, 1947, and 9 per cent for the year 1948 from the previous year. Man-hours worked were up 5 per cent in December from November, but were 1 per cent below December, 1947. For the year 1948, however, man-hours worked were 2 per cent above 1947.

			Pay Rolls[5]						Man-Hours[5]				
			Index 1935–39=100		Change				Index 1935–39=100		Change		
		12 months 1948 from 1947	Dec. 1948	Nov. 1948	Dec. 1948 from Nov. 1948	Dec. 1948 from Dec. 1947	12 months 1948 from 1947		Dec. 1948	Nov. 1948	Dec. 1948 from Nov. 1948	Dec. 1948 from Dec. 1947	12 months 1948 from 1947
		%			%	%	%				%	%	%
3	+		337	335	+ x	+ 5	+ 8		c	c	+ x	— 4	b
5	—		325	331	— 2	+ 3	+ 7		150	153	— 2	— 6	— 2
3	—		354	366	— 4	+ 7	+ 13		156	160	— 2	— 2	+ 1
1	—		226	239	— 5	+ 2	+ 7		98	102	— 5	— 3	— x
1	—		241	242	— 1	+ 14	+ 12		113	114	— 1	+ 6	+ 3
4	+		212	229	— 7	— 1	+ 5		85	90	— 6	— 6	— 2
4	—		412	429	— 4	— 8	+ 5		164	172	— 5	— 16	— 3
9	—		453	453	+ x	— 3	+ 8		163	163	— x	— 10	— 1
2	—		229	246	— 11	— 17	+ 2		107	121	— 11	— 24	— 5
7	—		565	581	— 3	+ x	+ 6		243	250	— 3	— 9	— 2
2	—		641	680	— 6	— 6	+ 1		287	301	— 5	— 14	— 8
3	—		306	310	— 1	— 5	— 1		147	148	— x	— 9	— 8
8	+		692	651	+ 7	+ 44	+ 48		242	261	— 8	+ 19	+ 33
5	+		357	362	— 1	+ 3	+ 8		133	136	— 2	— 7	+ 1
2	—		341	342	— x	+ 5	+ 9		158	159	— 1	— 3	— 1
1	—		383	367	+ 4	+ 7	+ 6		174	169	+ 3	— 1	— 1
5	—		259	256	+ 1	+ 1	+ x		108	107	+ 1	— 9	— 10
1	+		358	358	— x	+ 5	+ 12		163	163	— x	— 2	+ 2
7	+		399	425	— 6	— 2	+ 12		168	180	— 7	— 10	+ 2
2	+		321	317	+ 1	+ 13	+ 14		150	149	+ 1	+ 4	+ 3
4	—		226	289	— 22	— 29	— 3		96	128	— 25	— 36	— 12
3	—		383	380	+ 1	+ x	+ 3		188	188	+ x	— 8	— 6
x	+		287	289	— 1	+ 5	+ 10		137	138	— 1	— 3	— x
2	+		317	340	— 7	— 4	+ 10		146	152	— 4	— 8	+ 2
2	+		290	289	+ 1	+ 10	+ 13		141	141	+ x	— x	+ 2
3	—		307	304	+ 1	+ 5	+ 8		136	135	+ x	— 4	— 3
0	—		262	269	— 2	— 10	— 9		159	160	— 1	— 13	— 13
0	—		250	255	— 2	— 11	— 11		161	161	— x	— 14	— 15
1	—		350	367	— 4	— 7	+ 2		147	153	— 4	— 12	— 6
1	+		283	282	+ x	+ 11	+ 5		120	119	+ 1	+ 4	— 2
3	+		354	371	— 5	+ 10	+ 18		154	158	— 3	— 1	+ 6
x	—		300	287	+ 5	+ 15	+ 6		115	110	+ 4	+ 6	— 2
2	—		235	239	— 2	+ 15	+ 1		96	97	— 1	+ 13	— 5
x	—		169	177	— 4	— 3	— 4		84	86	— 2	— 7	— 8
4	+		219	217	+ 1	— 2	+ 8		95	94	+ x	— 9	— x
2	+		231	249	— 7	— 6	+ 8		110	114	— 3	— 11	— 1
6	+		216	205	+ 5	— 2	+ 8		85	83	+ 3	— 9	+ x
9	—		377	396	— 5	— 2	+ 7		159	166	— 4	— 10	— 2
11	+		343	347	— 1	+ 1	+ 9		141	145	— 3	— 8	+ x
2	+		301	275	+ 10	— 9	+ 25		234	211	+ 11	— 7	+ 19
4	—		948	1041	— 9	— 3	+ 2		346	369	— 6	— 12	— 8
7	—		246	245	+ x	— 2	— 1		156	156	— x	— 10	— 9
x	+		246	228	+ 8	+ 9	+ 9		134	128	+ 5	— 1	+ 2
3	+		146	155	+ 1	+ 12	+ 2		98	98	— x	— 5	— 10
4	+		255	229	+ 11	+ 4	+ 8		143	132	+ 8	— 4	+ 4
5	+		286	283	+ 1	+ 12	+ 17		168	167	+ 1	+ 7	+ 13
6	+		306	335	— 9	+ 1	+ 12		c	c	— 9	— 7	b
5	—		c	c	— 1	— 2	— x		c	c	— 3	— 10	— 12

he emplo of 591,845 persons in 4,102 establishments; indexes of man-hours, on the igures in nthesis show number of establishments reporting employment and pay roll.



Business Conditions in



AKRON

Bank debits increased 7 per cent in December from November, and were 4 per cent greater than in December, 1947. December retail sales of 83 independent stores were 25 per cent greater than November, but were 1 per cent less than December, 1947. Retail sales for the year 1948 were 5 per cent more than in 1947. Industrial power consumption was down 10 per cent in December from November and down 2 per cent from December, 1947.

Total employment increased 1 per cent in December, but was 9 per cent less than in December, 1947. Total pay rolls increased fractionally in December from November, but were 6 per cent less than in December, 1947.

CANTON

Bank debits increased 9 per cent in December from November and were 14 per cent greater than in December, 1947. Retail sales in December for 27 independent stores increased 51 per cent from November, and were 10 per cent more than in December, 1947. Retail sales for the year 1948 were 10 per cent above the year 1947. New residential building permits increased 10 per cent for the year 1948 from 1947, while new non-residential building permits increased 12 per cent in the same period.

Total employment increased fractionally in December from November and was 5 per cent above December, 1947. Total pay rolls decreased fractionally in December from November, but were 12 per cent above December, 1947.

CINCINNATI

Bank debits increased 6 per cent in December from November, but decreased 1 per cent from December, 1947. Retail sales of 218 independent retailers increased 29 per cent in December from November, and were 3 per cent above December, 1947. Sales for the year 1948 were 8 per cent greater than in 1947. Retail food prices dropped 2 per cent in December from November, and were 3 per cent below December, 1947.

Total employment decreased fractionally in December from November and was 12 per cent below December, 1947, employment. Total pay rolls decreased fractionally in December from November and were 5 per cent below December, 1947, pay rolls.

Steel operated at 97 per cent capacity in December, a drop of 5 points from November. The average rate for 1948 was 12 per cent above the 1947 average.

DAYTON

Bank debits increased 5 per cent in December from November, and increased 2 per cent from December, 1947. Retail sales of 25 independent stores increased 4 per cent in December, and were down 5 per cent from December, 1947. Sales for the year 1948 were 3 per cent above 1947 sales. Industrial power consumption decreased 2 per cent in December from November, and was 12 per cent below December, 1947.

Total employment increased fractionally in December from November, but was 8 per cent below December, 1947. Total pay rolls increased 1 per cent in December from November, but decreased fractionally from December, 1947.

ITEM — Unit or Index — Base Period	Dec. 1948	Nov. 1948	Change from Last Month: Dec. 1948 from Nov. 1948	Change from Last Year: Dec. 1948 from Dec. 1947	Change from Last Year: 12 months 1948 from 1947
AKRON					
			%	%	%
Number Employed:[6]					
Total[w] (270)[a] *1935–39*	123	122	+ 1	— 9	[b]
All Manufacturing (75)[a] .... "	105	106	— [x]	— 9	— 10
Trade & Public Util. (161)[a].. "	160	156	+ 3	— 11	[b]
Construction (34)[a] ..... "	114	111	+ 3	— 3	+ 5
• Pay Rolls:[5] Total[w] (270)[a]..... "	222	222	+ [x]	— 6	[b]
All Manufacturing (75)[a] .... "	194	196	— 1	— 6	— 4
Trade & Public Util. (161)[a].. "	288	278	+ 3	— 6	[b]
Construction (34)[a] ..... "	347	364	— 5	— 3	+ 13
Ret. Sales, Independent Stores[4] (83)[a] %	[c]	[c]	+ 25	— 1	+ 5
Auto Registrations:[2] New Cars *Number*	1,239	1,202	+ 3	— 4	+ 10
New Trucks "	124	182	— 32	— 7	+ 13
Cost of Living[20] ..... *Jan. 1939*	[b]	166	[b]	[b]	[b]
• Bank Debits Index[3, f] *1935–39*	411	383	+ 7	+ 4	+ 2
Commercial Failures[13] ..... *Number*	1	1	0†	+ 1†	+ 3†
" Liabilities[13] ....*Thous. Dol.*	4	6	— 33	+ [y]	+191
Indus. Power Consump. Index[1, f] *1935–39*	352	393	— 10	— 2	— [x]
Val. Bldg. Permits[3, f]—Total[b].. "	534	562	— 5	— 68	+ 38
Residential ..... "	486	411	+ 18	— 6	+ 40
Nonresidential ..... "	950	962	— 1	— 79	+ 58
CANTON					
Number Employed:[6]					
Total[w] (170)[a] *1935–39*	186	186	+ [x]	+ 5	[b]
All Manufacturing (77)[a].... "	175	177	— 1	+ 7	+ 2
Trade & Public Util. (62)[a]... "	190	184	+ 3	+ 2	[b]
Construction (31)[a] ..... "	206	226	— 9	+102	[b]
• Pay Rolls:[5] Total[w] (170)[a]..... "	326	327	— [x]	+ 12	[b]
All Manufacturing (77)[a].... "	316	321	— 2	+ 15	+ 9
Trade & Public Util. (62)[a]... "	326	313	+ 4	— 3	[b]
Construction (31)[a] ..... "	385	410	— 6	+124	[b]
Ret. Sales, Independent Stores[4] (27)[a] %	[c]	[c]	+ 51	+ 10	+ 10
Auto Registrations:[2] New Cars *Number*	822	734	+ 12	+ 2	+ 10
New Trucks "	97	126	— 23	— 22	+ 18
• Bank Debits Index[3, f] *1935–39*	389	355	+ 9	+ 14	+ 14
Commercial Failures[13] ..... *Number*	1	0	+ 1†	+ 1†	+ 3†
" Liabilities[13] ....*Thous. Dol.*	20	0	+ [y]	+ [y]	+200
Val. Bldg. Permits[3, f]—Total[b]..*1935–39*	287	448	— 40	— [x]	+ 9
Residential ..... "	438	318	+ 38	+ 84	+ 10
Nonresidential ..... "	108	962	— 89	— 73	+ 12
CINCINNATI					
Number Employed:[6]					
Total[w] (863)[a] *1935–39*	125	126	— [x]	— 12	[b]
All Manufacturing (327)[a].... "	142	145	— 2	— 6	— 2
Trade & Public Util. (419)[a].. "	109	107	+ 2	— 17	[b]
Construction (117)[a] ..... "	89	94	— 6	— 12	+ 4
• Pay Rolls:[5] Total[w] (863)[a]..... "	268	269	— [x]	— 5	[b]
All Manufacturing (327)[a].... "	324	332	— 2	— 3	+ 7
Trade & Public Util. (419)[a].. "	198	192	+ 3	— 9	[b]
Construction (117)[a] ..... "	194	190	+ 2	+ 3	+ 15
Ret. Sales, Independent Stores[4] (218)[a] %	[c]	[c]	+ 29	+ 3	+ 8
Auto Registrations:[2] New Cars *Number*	2,034	2,047	— 1	+ 1	+ 10
New Trucks "	312	363	— 14	— 28	+ 6
Cost of Living[20] ..... *Jan. 1939*	[b]	165	[b]	[b]	[b]
Retail Food Price Index[16]..... *1935–39*	205	209	— 2	— 3	+ 9
• Bank Debits Index[3, f] ..... "	311	294	+ 6	— 1	+ 10
Commercial Failures[13] ..... *Number*	1	1	0†	0†	+ 15†
" Liabilities[13] ....*Thous. Dol.*	15	9	+ 67	— 70	+ 72
Val. Bldg. Permits[3, f]—Total[b]..*1935–39*	132	181	— 27	— 15	+ 32
Residential ..... "	56	100	— 44	— 19	+ 38
Nonresidential ..... "	102	157	— 35	+ 40	+ 64
Steel Ind. Oper. Rate[18] *4 Wks.Av.% Cap.*	97	102	— 5	+ 13	+ 12
CLEVELAND					
Number Employed:[6]					
Total[w] (1,015)[a] *1935–39*	[b]	[b]	+ 1	— 2	[b]
All Manufacturing (506)[a]... "	139	141	— 2	— 7	— 5
Trade & Public Util. (331)[a].. "	[b]	[b]	+ 2	+ 1	[b]
Construction (178)[a] ..... "	486	547	— 11	— 5	+ 20
• Pay Rolls:[5] Total[w] (1,015)[a].... "	[b]	[b]	— [x]	+ 2	[b]
All Manufacturing (506)[a]... "	317	330	— 4	— 3	+ 2
Trade & Public Util. (331)[a].. "	[b]	[b]	+ 4	+ 7	[b]
Construction (178)[a] ..... "	582	656	— 11	+ 3	+ 27
Ret. Sales, Independent Stores[4] (422)[a] %	[c]	[c]	+ 30	+ 2	+ 8
Auto Registrations:[2] New Cars *Number*	4,322	4,481	— 4	— 5	+ 8
New Trucks "	497	638	— 22	— 15	+ 7
Cost of Living[20] ..... *Jan. 1939*	[b]	166	[b]	[b]	[b]
Retail Food Price Index[16]..... *1935–39*	213	217	— 2	+ [x]	+ 9
• Bank Debits Index[3, f] ..... "	403	357	+ 13	+ 9	+ 14
Commercial Failures[13] ..... *Number*	4	10	— 6†	— 5†	— 9†
" Liabilities[13] ....*Thous. Dol.*	124	226	— 45	— 61	— 74
Val. Bldg. Permits[3, f]—Total[b]..*1935–39*	204	178	+ 15	— 11	— 6
Residential ..... "	62	95	— 34	— 50	— 25
Nonresidential ..... "	464	305	+ 52	— 3	+ 5
Steel Ind. Oper. Rate[18] *4 Wks.Av.% Cap.*	97	99	— 2	+ 9	+ 5

• Indicates Series Charted (Page 7). For Sources and Footnotes, see Page 2.

ITEM	Unit or Index Base Period	Dec. 1948	Nov. 1948	Change from Last Month: Dec. 1948 from Nov. 1948	Change from Last Year: Dec. 1948 from Dec. 1947	Change from Last Year: 12 months 1948 from 1947
COLUMBUS						
				%	%	%
Number Employed:[5]						
Total[w] (360)[a]	1935–39	135	136	— x	— 1	b
All Manufacturing (109)[a]	"	131	136	— 3	— 4	+ 1
Trade & Public Util. (218)[a]	"	133	130	+ 2	+ x	b
Construction (33)[a]	"	187	193	— 3	+ 12	b
• Pay Rolls:[5] Total[w] (360)[a]	"	318	323	— 2	+ 6	b
All Manufacturing (109)[a]	"	397	400	— 1	+ 3	+ 13
Trade & Public Util. (218)[a]	"	235	233	+ 1	+ 8	b
Construction (33)[a]	"	386	455	— 15	+ 13	b
Ret. Sales, Independent Stores[4] (159)[a]	%	e	e	+ 33	+ 2	+ 10
Auto Registrations:[3] New Cars	Number	1,255	1,229	+ 2	+ 5	+ 15
New Trucks	"	190	228	— 17	— 12	+ x
Retail Food Price Index[15]	1935–39	189	192	— 2	— 3	+ 8
• Bank Debits Index[6, f]	"	348	375	— 7	+ 2	+ 20
Commercial Failures[13]	Number	0	1	— 1†	0†	+ 5†
" Liabilities[13]	Thous. Dol.	0	8	—100	0	— 41
Val. Bldg. Permits[5, f]—Total[b]	1935–39	234	439	— 47	— 40	+ 31
Residential	"	232	474	— 51	— 47	+ 16
Nonresidential	"	272	485	— 44	— 38	+ 8
DAYTON						
Number Employed:[5]						
Total[w] (260)[a]	1935–39	163	162	+ x	— 8	b
All Manufacturing (113)[a]	"	167	167	— x	— 10	— 3
Trade & Public Util. (89)[a]	"	149	145	+ 2	— 6	b
Construction (58)[a]	"	81	90	— 10	— x	— 4
• Pay Rolls:[5] Total[w] (260)[a]	"	451	445	+ 1	— x	b
All Manufacturing (113)[a]	"	472	465	+ 1	— 3	+ 2
Trade & Public Util. (89)[a]	"	313	303	+ 3	+ 3	b
Construction (58)[a]	"	262	292	— 11	+ 9	+ 11
Ret. Sales, Independent Stores[4] (25)[a]	%	e	e	+ 4	— 5	+ 3
Auto Registrations:[3] New Cars	Number	1,153	1,142	+ 1	— 1	+ 10
New Trucks	"	104	153	— 32	— 17	+ 20
Cost of Living[20]	Jan. 1939	b	159	b	b	b
• Bank Debits Index[6, f]	1935–39	404	386	+ 5	+ 2	+ 5
Commercial Failures[13]	Number	3	3	0†	+ 3†	+ 5†
" Liabilities[13]	Thous. Dol.	50	19	+163	+ y	— 6
Indus. Power Consump. Index[1, f]	1935–39	278	285	— 2	— 12	+ 7
Val. Bldg. Permits[5, f]—Total[b]	"	172	309	— 44	— 78	— 8
Residential	"	147	371	— 61	— 40	— 26
Nonresidential	"	66	219	— 70	— 95	+ 10
TOLEDO						
Number Employed:[5]						
Total[w] (326)[a]	1935–39	122	117	+ 4	— 1	b
All Manufacturing (113)[a]	"	119	119	+ x	+ x	+ 2
Trade & Public Util. (157)[a]	"	126	114	+ 10	— 1	b
Construction (56)[a]	"	117	124	— 6	— 23	b
• Pay Rolls:[5] Total[w] (326)[a]	"	248	242	+ 3	+ 9	b
All Manufacturing (113)[a]	"	250	250	— x	+ 11	+ 14
Trade & Public Util. (157)[a]	"	246	222	+ 11	+ 9	b
Construction (56)[a]	"	231	245	— 6	— 15	b
Ret. Sales, Independent Stores[4] (123)[a]	%	e	e	+ 33	+ 3	+ 12
Auto Registrations:[3] New Cars	Number	1,211	1,407	— 14	— 10	+ 10
New Trucks	"	161	154	+ 5	0	+ 7
Cost of Living[20]	Jan. 1939	b	168	b	b	b
• Bank Debits Index[6, f]	1935–39	350	307	+ 14	+ 1	+ 3
Commercial Failures[13]	Number	3	0	+ 3†	+ 3†	+ 9†
" Liabilities[13]	Thous. Dol.	43	0	+ y	+ y	— 51
Indus. Power Consump. Index[1, f]	1935–39	272	276	— 2	+ 12	+ 11
Val. Bldg. Permits[5, f]—Total[b]	"	454	155	+192	+161	+ 75
Residential	"	126	222	— 43	— 40	+ 6
Nonresidential	"	1,021	69	+ y	+596	+100
YOUNGSTOWN						
Number Employed:[5]						
Total[w] (130)[a]	1935–39	136	134	+ 2	— 2	b
All Manufacturing (38)[a]	"	146	145	+ 1	+ 1	+ 3
Trade & Public Util. (76)[a]	"	128	123	+ 4	— 5	b
Construction (16)[a]	"	48	54	— 11	— 20	— 4
• Pay Rolls:[5] Total[w] (130)[a]	"	301	299	+ 1	+ 7	b
All Manufacturing (38)[a]	"	333	330	+ 1	+ 11	+ 15
Trade & Public Util. (76)[a]	"	259	254	+ 2	+ x	b
Construction (16)[a]	"	118	132	— 11	— 17	+ 2
Ret. Sales, Independent Stores[4] (123)[a]	%	e	e	+ 13	+ 3	+ 9
Auto Registrations:[3] New Cars	Number	b	b	b	b	b
New Trucks	"	b	b	b	b	b
Cost of Living[20]	Jan. 1939	b	164	b	b	b
• Bank Debits Index[6, f]	1935–39	388	382	+ 2	+ 12	+ 13
Commercial Failures[13]	Number	0	0	0†	— 1†	— 2†
" Liabilities[13]	Thous. Dol.	0	0	0	—100	+514
Indus. Power Consump. Index[1, f]	1935–39	233	248	— 6	+ 2	+ 10
Val. Bldg. Permits[5, f]—Total[b]	"	74	165	— 55	— 19	— 16
Residential	"	90	124	— 28	— 3	— 12
Nonresidential	"	64	288	— 78	— 2	— 5
Steel Ind. Oper. Rate[12]	4 Wks. Av. % Cap.	100	105	— 5	+ 4	+ 10

• Indicates Series Charted (Page 7). For Sources and Footnotes, see Page 2.

the Chief Ohio Cities

COLUMBUS

Bank debits decreased 7 per cent in December from November, but were 2 per cent above December, 1947. Retail sales in 159 independent stores increased 33 per cent is December from November, and increased 2 per cent from December, 1947. Sales for the year 1948 were 10 per cent above 1947 sales. Retail food prices dropped 2 per cent in December from November, and were 3 per cent below December, 1947, prices.

Total employment decreased fractionally in December from November, and was 1 per cent below December, 1947. Total pay rolls decreased 2 per cent in December from November, but increased 6 per cent from December, 1947.

CLEVELAND

Bank debits increased 13 per cent in December from November, and were 9 per cent above December, 1947. Retail sales of 422 independent stores increased 30 per cent in December from November, and increased 2 per cent from December, 1947. Sales for the year 1948 were 8 per cent above 1947. Retail food prices dropped 2 per cent in December from November, but were fractionally greater than in December, 1947.

Total employment increased 1 per cent in December from November, but was 2 per cent below December, 1947, employment. Total pay rolls decreased fractionally in December from November, but increased 2 per cent from December, 1947.

The steel industry operated at 97 per cent capacity in December, a drop of 2 points from November. The average rate for 1948 was 5 per cent above the 1947 average.

TOLEDO

Bank debits increased 11 per cent in December from November, and increased 1 per cent from December, 1947. Retail sales of 123 independent stores increased 33 per cent in December from November, and increased 3 per cent from December, 1947. Sales for the year 1948 were 12 per cent above 1947 sales.

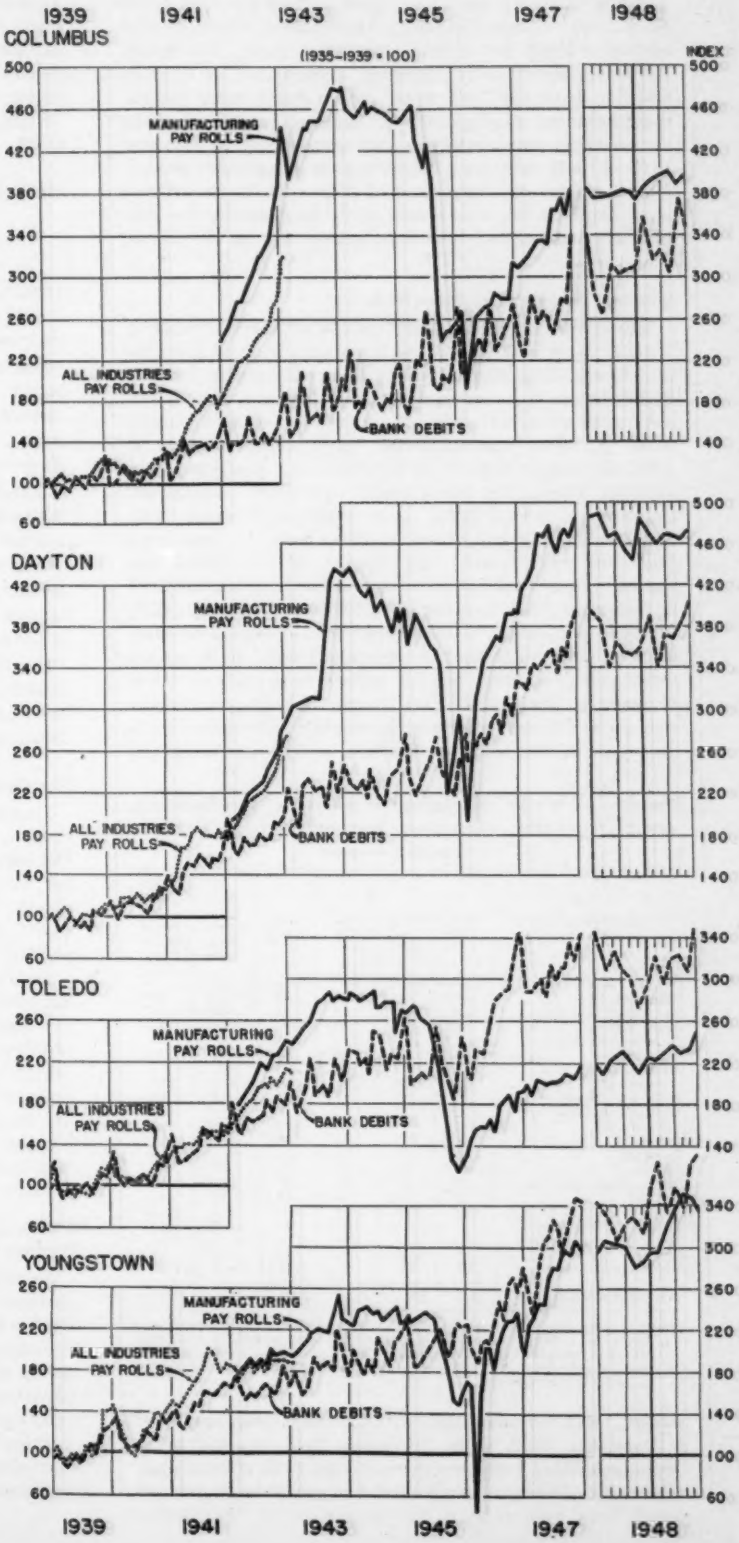
Total employment increased 4 per cent in December from November, but decreased 1 per cent from December, 1947. Total pay rolls increased 3 per cent in December from November, and increased 9 per cent from December, 1947.

YOUNGSTOWN

Bank debits increased 2 per cent in December from November, and increased 12 per cent from December, 1947. Retail sales of 123 independent stores increased 13 per cent in December from November, and increased 3 per cent from December, 1947. Sales for the year 1948 were 9 per cent above 1947 sales. Industrial power consumption decreased 6 per cent in December from November, but was 2 per cent above December, 1947.

Total employment increased 2 per cent in December from November, but was 2 per cent below December, 1947, employment. Total pay rolls increased 1 per cent in December from November, and increased 7 per cent from December, 1947.

The steel industry operated at 100 per cent of capacity in December. The average rate during 1948 was 10 per cent greater than the 1947 average.



MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN OHIO

While the year 1947 was characterized by only minor fluctuations in manufacturing employment, the year 1948 showed a slight but definite downward trend. Non-manufacturing employment, however, experienced an upward trend in both 1947 and 1948. The upward trend in non-manufacturing employment was great enough to offset the decreases in manufacturing employment during the first part of 1948, but was insufficient to counteract the decreases during the latter part of 1948, with the result that total employment, which was fairly level during the first part of 1948, moved downward during the latter part of that year.

Number Employed in Manufacturing

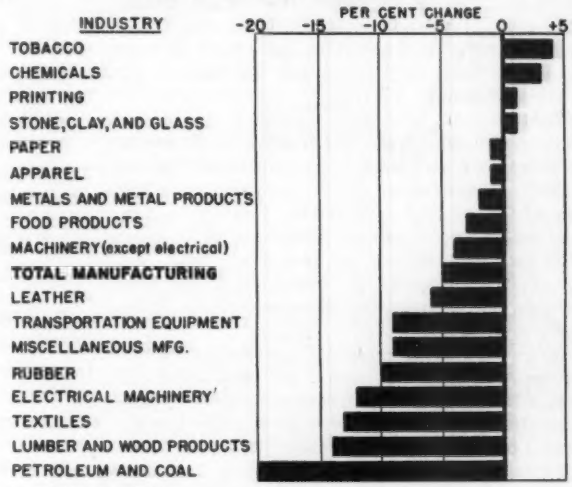
Manufacturing employment increased from a total of 799,000 in December, 1939, to a wartime high of 1,384,000 in August, 1943, due primarily to expansions in the war industries such as transportation equipment, machinery, and metal and metal products. At the end of 1945, shortly after the war, manufacturing employment dropped to 1,052,000 largely because of the sharp fall in aircraft production. During the reconversion year 1946, employment followed an upward trend which continued through 1947. Manufacturing employment in 1948, however, was down from the 1947 levels. The number of individuals employed in manufacturing industries went from 1,246,000 in December, 1947, to a low of 1,186,000 in December, 1948, a decrease of about 60,000 employees. It should be mentioned at this point that the average length of the work-week per production worker stayed at about 40 hours throughout this period. This means, of course, that there was no additional reduction in employment caused by a reduction in the number of hours worked per week per worker. Had the same number of workers been employed in December, 1948, as in December, 1947, but had there been a reduction in the work-week from 40 to 38 hours per worker, the decreases in the total number of hours worked would have been roughly the equivalent of that which existed with the 60,000 fewer employees. With employment in manufacturing of about 1,200,000, a reduction in the average work-week from 40 hours to, say, 35 hours, would have about the same effect as that of decreasing employment by about 150,000 workers. This would amount, of course, to spreading unemployment as well as employment.

Number of Wage and Salary Workers in Manufacturing, by Industry, Ohio, December, Selected Years, 1939-1948
(Thousand Employees)

Manufacturing Industries	Dec. 1939	Dec. 1945	Dec. 1947	Dec. 1948	Dec. 1948 from Dec. 1947	Percentage Distribution Dec. 1948
Chemicals	30	35	39	40	+ 3	3.4
Petroleum and Coal	5	9	10	8	—20	0.7
Food Products	58	65	69	67	— 3	5.6
Lumber and Wood Products	29	29	36	31	—14	2.6
Machinery (except electrical)	100	186	219	210	— 4	17.7
Electrical Machinery	58	81	96	85	—12	7.2
Metals and Metal Products	233	272	319	313	— 2	26.4
Paper	21	29	33	33	— 1	2.8
Printing	41	42	49	49	+ 1	4.1
Rubber	52	88	89	80	—10	6.7
Stone, Clay, and Glass	49	58	67	67	+ 1	5.6
Textiles	10	14	15	13	—13	1.1
Apparel	28	28	33	33	— 1	2.8
Transp. Equipment	33	78	108	98	— 9	3.8
Tobacco	4	4	3	3	+ 4	0.3
Leather	19	15	17	16	— 6	1.3
Miscellaneous Mfg.	28	29	44	40	— 9	3.4
Total Manufacturing	799	1052	1246	1186	— 5	100.0

Source: Data for 1939-1947 taken from the Division of Research and Statistics, Ohio Bureau of Unemployment Compensation and data for 1948 computed by the Bureau of Business Research from information supplied by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor.

PER CENT CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT, OHIO, DECEMBER, 1948 FROM DECEMBER, 1947



Source: Accompany Table.

Per Cent Change in Employment

December, 1948, total manufacturing employment was down 5 per cent from December of the preceding year, but was up 48 per cent from the prewar level of December, 1939. A compared with employment in the peak war month, August, 1943, and December in the reconversion year, 1945, employment in December, 1948, was down 14 per cent and up 13 per cent, respectively.

In December, 1948, as compared with December, 1947, manufacturing employment increased slightly in some of the major industries and decreased in others; the largest relative increase, 4 per cent, occurred in the tobacco industry. Smaller percentage increases took place in the chemicals, printing, and stone, clay, and glass industries. The largest relative decreases, 20 per cent, 14 per cent, 13 per cent, and 12 per cent, occurred in the petroleum and coal products, lumber and wood products, textiles, and electrical machinery industries, respectively.

Shifts in the Relative Importance of Employment in the Various Manufacturing Industries

As measured by the number employed, the relative importance of the chemical, petroleum and coal products, electrical machinery, paper, rubber, textiles, and tobacco industries remained fairly constant during the postwar period as compared with the prewar period. The relative importance of the food products, lumber and wood products, metal and metal products, printing, and apparel industries registered minor decreases while machinery (except electrical) and transportation equipment industries increased considerably.

Sam Arnold